UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION SERVICE	CASE NUMBER: **OH150009**
OFFICIAL WARNING **VIOLATION OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS**	VIOLATOR: Equitech-Bio Inc. Customer# 1752 License# 74-R-0161
	ADDRESS (*Street, City, State, ZIP Code*): 512 Cotton Gin Lane Kerrville, TX 78028

The U.S. Department of Agriculture has evidence that on or about **September 30, 2014 through February 12, 2015**, you or your organization committed violations of the following sections of the Code of Federal Regulations, Title 9:

2.31(a), 2.31 (c), 2.31(d) Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC)

On September 30, 2014 and January 7, 2015 you: failed to appoint an IACUC; and failed to have an IACUC review the research facility's program of for humane care and use of animals, inspect all of the animals facilities or prepare and submit reports of these evaluations to the Institutional Official at least once every six months.

2.31(d)(1) Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) (Repeat)

On January 7, 2015 and February 12, 2015 you failed to ensure all animal use activities had been approved by the IACUC before any animal procedures had begun, and ensure all required information listed in 2.31(d) and (e) were available to the IACUC.

2.33(b)(2) Attending Veterinarian and Adequate Veterinary Care (DIRECT)(Repeat)

On January 7, 2015 a white and black spotted adult rabbit was observed to have a broken leg. While the staff was aware of the injury, the rabbit had not been treated and was not seen by a veterinarian. Animals with injuries or diseases must receive appropriate methods to diagnose and adequately treat diseases in a timely manner.

2.33(b)(3) Attending Veterinarian and Adequate Veterinary Care (DIRECT)

On January 7, 2015, you failed to communicate injuries to a rabbit to a veterinarian. The regulations require you to provide an adequate and timely means of communication so that all problems for all animals are reported to a veterinarian. Failure to report injuries to a veterinarian results in injuries not being treated in a timely manner and can result in further progression of the injury.

3.127(b) Facilities, Outdoor (DIRECT)

On January 7, 2015, it was determined that 180 goats were housed in a manner that did not protect them from the cold weather. Specifically, the barn housing the goats had no bedding and did not provide a wind-break for the animals. Animals must be housed in a manner to prevent discomfort and stress.

The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) created federal regulations to ensure the welfare of animals and help prevent the spread of animal and plant pests and diseases. Since violations of the regulations can have serious and costly impacts that are detrimental to the public interest, APHIS is providing you with an Official Warning for the violation(s) described above. Any further violation of these federal regulations may result in the assessment of a civil penalty, criminal prosecution, or other sanctions. If you have any questions concerning this Official Warning or violation(s), please contact the APHIS official listed in this notice.

APHIS OFFICIAL *(Name and Title)*: Chester A. Gipson Deputy Administrator Animal Care	**OFFICE ADDRESS:** 4700 River Road Riverdale, MD 30737	
SIGNATURE:	**DATE ISSUED:** [DATE]	**TELEPHONE NO:** (919) 855-7100
CERTIFIED MAIL RECEIPT NO: [CERTIFIED #]		

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